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# GREECE

AND

## THE TIMES

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## GREECE AND 'THE TIMES'



PIERRE LESTOILE



# GREECE

AND

# THE TIMES

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*Reprinted from MINERVA for October 1880*

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ROME

OFFICE OF MINERVA

56, Piazza Montecitorio

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1880

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*While authorizing a separate reprint of this paper, published in the October Number of MINERVA, we consider it fair that it be accompanied by a reprint of the leading article of The Times to which our Contributor replies.*

*ED. MINERVA.*

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## GREECE AND 'THE TIMES.'

ON the 15<sup>th</sup> of October the *Times* published a leading article on Greek affairs, in which, among the rest, it naively asked: 'Will Greece quietly submit to the disenchantment of her 'dearest illusions?' In next day's paper we found a few lines written by Mr. Theodore Ralli in which he very pertinently says: 'The humblest Greek can give you an answer 'rapid and complete—she will not. But it is not a question "of 'illusions,' but of grave covenants and solemn promises 'made by you and Europe to her.'

In this concise answer to the ingenuous question of the principal English organ, we are perfectly convinced that Mr. Ralli expressed the feelings of every Greek in or out of Greece. Greece will not submit. Her claims are not 'illusions', but rights duly confirmed to her by 'grave covenants and solemn promises' made by the great European Powers. Greece, however, would be wrong if she were surprised at what has happened to her; it is not the first time, though it will, we hope, be the last. To show how her present case is only a second edition of the same work we will quote the following words, that, to a great extent, unhappily, are as *à propos* now as when first written.



'A nation, once the first among the nations, pre-eminent in knowledge, pre-eminent in military glory, the cradle of philosophy, of eloquence and of the fine arts, had been for ages bowed down under a cruel yoke. All the vices which oppression generates, the abject vices which it generates in those who submit to it, the ferocious vices which it generates in those who struggle against it, had deformed the character of that miserable race. The valour which had won the great battle of human civilization, which had saved Europe, which had subjugated Asia, lingered only among pirates and robbers. The ingenuity once so conspicuously displayed in every department of physical and moral science, had been depraved into a timid and servile cunning. On a sudden this degraded people had risen on their oppressors. Discountenanced or betrayed by the surrounding potentates, they had found in themselves something of that which might well supply the place of all foreign assistance, something of the energy of their fathers.'

Thus wrote Macaulay of the Greeks precisely fifty years ago in his Essay on Moore's Life of Byron. To-day, after half a century, no writer could print words more true and appropriate to the present state and position of the Greeks.

The writings of truly great minds, narrowed by no prejudices, paralyzed by no private interests or egotistical motives never grow old; with a slight, if even any, allowance for the apparent changes worked by time, their views will be as applicable to men and times, centuries after they themselves are mouldering in the dust, as they were applicable to the men and things of the day when they actually wrote.

The English historian could not have better depicted the Greeks as they then were, and as to a great extent many still are, if he had devoted long years to the study of that particular nation. He saw that once pre-eminent people bowed down under the 'cruel yoke'; he understood the 'abject vices,' the 'ferocious vices' generated in the race; he could account for the deformation of its character. He was right when he said that their once unsurpassed valour '*lingered only among pirates and robbers.*' He was just when he wrote that the ingenuity which still forms the admiration of every

civilized society, '*had been depraved into a timid and servile cunning.*' Macaulay's words are not harsh because they are just: there is not the shadow of an intention to sneer at the '*miserable race.*' the writer is impartial and just in speaking of the effects, because the historian's mind was great enough to understand the causes.

The '*abject and ferocious vices,*' the '*deformed character,*' the '*timid and servile cunning*' were each and all the consequences of the '*cruel yoke.*' To-day, after fifty years of most imperfect and only partial freedom, fifty years during which the struggle has never really ceased one day, these defects in part of the Hellenic race do, we admit, still exist, but so does the yoke exist '*cruel*' as ever. Those defects would not disappear entirely for a long time even if the yoke were taken off and shattered: the baneful growth of so accursed a seed as the Turk sowed nearly five centuries ago cannot be extirpated in a few years. Children, not men, unless they are fools, believe in the power of fairies, or the reality of transformation scenes.

Macaulay lived in the days when this '*degraded people*' rose on their oppressors: his great pen records this fact; it records that the Greeks found in themselves '*something of the energy of their fathers,*' '*something of that which might well supply the place of all foreign assistance,*' as it likewise records that the '*miserable race*' struggling for bare life, was '*discountenanced or betrayed by the surrounding potentates.*' For this judgment on the Greeks of his day England's great historian deserves the sincerest gratitude of all belonging to the Hellenic race. The words of Macaulay's which we have quoted, ought to be translated into intelligible Greek, cut deep in granite or cast in bronze and put up full in view in every modern agora in every town of Greece. We would have every Greek man or child, in or out of his country learn those lines by heart, meditate over them and become wiser. The truth they may contain about his own condition will do him no harm, having, as he rightly has, the comforting reflection that the truth told sounds less bitter to-day when the '*vices*' are lessened, when '*valour*' is not the inheritance of '*pirates or robbers*' only, and when the national ingenuity has given undeniable proof of being something higher than '*timid and servile cunning.*'

Whilst meditating on the truths that show the Greek what he was, what some of his still may be, the words of Macaulay would remind him that the '*cruel yoke*' still exists; that his fathers *did* rise and *did* find '*something of the energy*' of those who fell at Marathon or the Thermopylæ. This testimonial from a man like Macaulay to those who began the dire struggle in 1821, the struggle so desperate—and, worst of all, so well-nigh useless—may well make his heart swell with honest pride; his race, no matter how much and how long it had bent beneath the yoke, was not so degraded as to submit meekly; if it has not yet freed Greece, that struggle has rehabilitated the name of Greek: it has restored that race to the living peoples: it has reinstated Ancient Hellas in a place among civilized nations—this place may not yet be the one occupied centuries ago: nevertheless it is a place in that Areopagus of civilization into which no indulgent Power, no obliging statesman, no fawning ambassador has ever been able to find a footing for Turkey.

The '*something of the energy of their fathers,*' the *something which might well supply the place of all foreign assistance*' which the Greeks of 1821 found in themselves, has not been lost: the Greeks of 1880 possess that '*something*' just as much and perhaps more than their fathers. In saying this we do not wish or intend to make any idle boast: that this '*something*' has not died out the Greeks have shown more than once since the Great Agon—we need only remember Crete. The valour that, as Macaulay wrote, '*lived only among pirates and robbers,*' has not died out; the memory of those '*pirates and robbers*'—who, to quote but two, could become a Miaoulis or a Botzaris—is cherished far more and will last perhaps longer than the memory of the heroes we read of in Homer. That valour will be shown again, and when it does exist in a people, armies are collected, weapons are found, as they only can be when, not troops, but a whole people young and old, man, woman and child have to fight for life, and hearth, and honour. The struggle between Greek and Turk, is not like a war between French and German: it cannot end with a Sedan, a deposition and a war indemnity. When the Greeks rise they will not form an army merely; they will be one great and only band of forlorn hope. It will be a struggle for liberty or death. It will be a butchery.



And Europe knows it.

And just as in the days of Macaulay the Greeks were '*discountenanced or betrayed by the surrounding potentates*' so they are to-day. Discountenanced, as long as the subtle art of that antiquated institution of intrigue and lies, called Diplomacy, was able to cajole, flatter and promise; betrayed, when the mask was no longer needed. To the empty taunts of party-politicians and the crafty insinuations of journalists we know of no more eloquent answer than the one contained in the before-quoted words of Macaulay. The great man is removed from the suspicions of Whig or Tory, he is out of the reach of newspaper innuendoes. His voice is a voice from the grave, and, in quoting it, we know that it will be heard with respect and listened to with attention. He who sleeps with the glorious dead in Westminster Abbey cannot be suspected of any selfish or unworthy motives, the authority of his name is such as to silence any bantam that might feel tempted to rise on his dung-hill and crow down that voice.

\* That Europe made Greece, to use Mr. Theodore Ralli's before mentioned words, 'grave covenants and solemn promises' is not denied even by the Powers themselves. The article in the *Times*, to which we reply, indirectly admits it in saying that 'Greece came out of the Berlin Congress on worse conditions than Montenegro.' What took place at the Berlin Congress is too well known to need repeating. On the 17<sup>th</sup> of June 1878 the Marquis of Salisbury made the motion in which 'Her Majesty's Government informed the other six Powers that it was of opinion that Greece should be re-presented.' This motion was seconded by Russia, France, Italy, and Germany. M.M. Delyannis and Rangabè were admitted to those sittings in which the Hellenic question was to be discussed; they read the Memorandum wherein the liberation of the Greek provinces was asked in the name of 'justice and humanity.' They recalled the heroic struggle going on in Crete and the sacrifices of the poor Hellenic kingdom which maintained 30,000 refugees on its territory.

The Powers assembled at Berlin recognized and discussed the claims on the Greek provinces subject to Turkey; more than that even Crete was spoken about. The Treaty is

there to attest what the Powers covenanted and promised. And yet, notwithstanding all the fine speeches and discussions 'Greece came out of the Berlin Congress on worse conditions than Montenegro.'

The *Times* says that 'the European concert underwent 'a considerable strain in bringing the Porte to the observance 'of the Berlin Treaty even so far as the surrender of Dulcigno is concerned.' This is not only adding insult to injury, but it is putting England, France and every power that was represented at the Berlin Congress in the most contemptible light. Is there any person of sound mind who will believe that if the Powers had been willing they could not have brought the Sublime Porte to its senses? Will the *Times* have us believe that the Sick Man is still able and would still dare to make a fool of all Europe? The Great Powers, and above all England, France and Italy cut a sorry figure indeed; it is worse than a sorry figure—they do not keep their word, they dishonour their signatures affixed to the Treaty. They do what they would not dare do if instead of little Greece one of themselves were the party deceived. The English, and the French and Italian Governments even more so, after all their generous and mighty talk must look very small in the eyes of their own people. The valorous and puissant champions who so magniloquently proclaimed their intention to do battle in the cause of justice and humanity turn out to be *des bien tristes sires* when it is a question of deeds and not words—we may say that the several representatives were only pot-valiant.

The *Times* has a quiet sneer at Greece for not having taken part in the Russo-Turkish war, adding that 'a state which cannot defend itself must submit to listen to prudent counsel, and must not be aggressive.' The *Times* wilfully ignores that Greece, ready or not, wanted to go to war, that the Greek troops, in fact, *did* cross the frontier under General Soutzo. The 'remonstrances and warnings of Europe' (for which read *promises* and *threats*) alone induced the Greek Government to keep quiet sorely against the nation's wish.

'The coast of Greece can only be protected from the 'attacks of Turkish ironclads' the *Times* goes on to say 'and 'the descent of Turkish troops by European intervention; and



'it is a cheap kind of valour which leads a nation to go to war always looking behind it for deliverance to those who, as it reckons, will be forced to help it in case of extremity.'

Discountenanced and betrayed as Greece is in 1880 exactly as she was in 1821, she certainly cannot calculate on foreign assistance, after having had such palpable proof lately that the potentates are anything but inclined to assist. The last speech of King George shows us plainly that Greece only counts upon herself, that she is going to throw the gauntlet *coûte que coûte*; for Greece it is a question of existence, a question of honour, of moral and material ruin. No matter what the issue of a Greco-Turkish war be, no matter how great her material losses, Greece, by taking resolute and energetic steps will always morally be the winner; if every Greek town and village be destroyed, if every port be ruined, Greece will be the conqueror. The Greeks know it and they are determined to act accordingly. If the butchery be so great as to excite the horror of the civilized world, and if the peoples—not the Governments—rush to Greece's assistance, it will be because the Governments and diplomatists are unable to check those feelings that are never wanting in the people: and now-a-days, happily, the people lead the Government and not *vice-versa* as in Macaulay's time.

If the peoples were to look on impassively as spectators at a show, at the destruction of Greece, they would be the apathetic witnesses of the destruction of civilization, of themselves; they would be the tacit accomplices in the triumph of injustice, inhumanity and barbarism. But Greece knows it will not be so, and least of all in the case of the generous and free peoples of England, France and Italy. The security of Greece's cause lies precisely in the triumphs of liberty and progress which the world has of late years witnessed in such nations as the English, the French and the Italians. Culture and general civilization have already done enough to render it impossible for a few cunning statesmen to lead millions of men by the nose at the present day.

The *Times* was pleased to insinuate that King George on returning to Athens empty-handed would meet with trouble and turmoil; the reception which the Ruler of Greece has had is sufficient denial of such an innuendo. Neither have

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the Greeks been wanting at difficult moments in 'fairness or forbearance with their rulers;' the treatment King Otho received at their hands can speak for their good sense. In another country he would have been shot, stabbed or blown up. But, besides this, King George knew very well when he started, on his last tour, what his duty would be in case he returned empty-handed; on this point King and Nation were and are of one mind. To hang back, when the nation is determined to go on, would simply mean abdication for King George, and surely his last speech sounds like anything but irresoluteness or indecision. At such a moment as the one when he started no other Chief of a state could have left his post; but between no other Chief of a state and his nation was there such entire unity of views and intentions. The young Prince to whom the Greeks entrusted their fate, who went nobly from Court to Court, the Envoy of his own people, has not one single moment betrayed the trust put in him. His people know it and that is why empty-handed or not King George was received with genuine and immense enthusiasm. If war is to break out King George will do his duty right manfully as Greece expects him to.

The *Times* need not alarm itself about the Greek army; plenty of men, and women too, if it comes to a pinch, will be found to look after their country; plenty of money also will be forthcoming. The Greeks who, as the English organ rightly says, are a widely-scattered people, are also a wealthy people; their innumerable colonies do not consist of shabby, needy adventurers; the Greek bankers and merchant-princes will untie their purse-strings as soon as need be and sooner. If they are widely-scattered and, in a certain sense, homeless, no people in the world feels so strongly the attachment for their mother-country, witness the munificent gifts, the princely endowments existing in free Greece, almost every one of them made by those Greeks who have slaved and toiled, involuntary exiles, in far-off lands in every part of the world. What was done in 1821 when, patrician and plebeian alike, all gave up everything for their country's cause, will be done once more, with the additional advantage that, whereas then the wealthy Greeks, the millionaires, were few, now their name is legion.



The *Times* leader further says: 'The Greeks claim Thessaly, Epirus, Crete, Cyprus, and who knows what else?' Indeed they do or will, sooner or later. And the *Times* knows it as well as everybody else who has the slightest knowledge of politics. The *Times* cannot ignore that the day is fast approaching when the question of the Eastern Question will be: 'Who is to have Constantinople?' and likewise must the *Times* know that the answer to that question can never be followed by lasting peace and international security until every power in the world admit that the Greeks are to have Constantinople. It may be in a great many or in a very few years: but no other practical solution of that troublesome question will be found. The Greeks perceive it in the very assurance that is continually given them that 'the future is theirs;' in the platonic advice offered by the Earl of Beaconsfield at the Congress and by the *Times* in the afore-said leader—'to wait.' The *Times* is truly amusing when it says: 'Were quiet times to prevail and the causes already at work left peacefully to achieve their effects, it is by no means impossible that the vanquished race might eventually reconquer the position it lost four centuries since.' By which the Greeks may understand that 'eventually' might mean another 'four centuries' or more!

The Greeks are accused by the English paper of not having 'made the best or the most of that land which for fifty years has been indisputably their own.' This is untrue; the accusation cannot hold good; it is not serious. The very slightest knowledge of the state of Greece in 1821 compared to its present state will prove how gratuitous and unfounded the charge is. We had occasion a short time ago to refute at length in this Review <sup>1</sup> a similar malevolent declaration, and will not therefore repeat the same arguments or state again the same facts. Besides, the English organ flatly contradicts itself in the following lines, which it is but fair to quote, and in which it says: 'That Pan-hellenism has a part, and a principal part, to play in the future development of Eastern

<sup>1</sup> GREECE AND MR. HANBURY M.P.; A Reply to Mr. Hanbury's article *The Spoilt Child of Europe* (*The Nineteenth Century* for November 1879). Vide the number of MINERVA for March 1880.



'politics no man can doubt, for with all its shortcomings the kingdom of Greece exhibits undeniable symptoms of material and intellectual progress, and in point of education and culture it not only is vastly in advance, of what it was at its rise, and of what either any province or even the capital of the Turkish Empire is at the present day, but it also outstrips the progress visible in Roumania, in Servia and in the other communities raised to independent existence out of the fragments of the Sultan's dominions.'

*Trop de bonté* forsooth! But flattering as no doubt this admission of the principal English organ may be, especially if we remember how not many years ago in the columns of the London Press the Greeks were reviled wholesale and treated to the harsh names of 'rebels and upstarts,' still it is not enough to compensate those who are bending under the '*cruel yoke*;' it does not atone for discountenance and betrayal.

The *Times* has another cut at the Greeks upon the Greek Loans, a question which we think is getting stale and rancid; does the *Times* really not know that that question has two, and very different, sides? We cannot believe it, and must say that the English organ would show but decent modesty in keeping silent about those Loans: a complete and impartial exposition of the affair might turn out to the discredit of—well, *not* the Greeks.

If Greece has to go to war *in formâ pauperis*, to use the refined expression of the *Times*, let her do so: it is better than to sink into utter degradation and hopeless apathy. Piedmont too, went to war *in formâ pauperis*; the sympathy of the civilized peoples, and pre-eminently of the English, were soon acquired for her cause; Piedmont had really, perhaps, more difficulties to encounter, in that she had many enemies to fight; yet she went to war, though it was *in formâ pauperis*. And now Italy is not a 'geographical expression' a nation of 'fiddlers and daubers,' but a mighty state, a strong people, that sits in European councils side by side with the greatest Powers. *L'Italia deve fare da sé*: and so she did. Greece must and will do likewise: the Greeks must rely upon themselves alone, turn a deaf ear to faithless promises and perfidious advice; they must answer threats, should any more be made, pluckily; put no faith in '*potentates*' or

'foreign assistance' and trust to the energy shown by their fathers who did not mendicate the sympathy of Governments, but commanded the admiration and obtained the  
every similar

**MINERVA** for the ensuing month will contain in addition to the usual Articles and the Serial Novel:

- I. **Protestantism versus Romanism.** The Errors of Romanism from a Protestant standpoint, by *Quid Noctis*.
- II. **Over against the City—Tivoli.** A monograph of first impressions by *Walter Tew Esq.* author *Dion*, etc., etc.

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*LEADING ARTICLE REPRINTED FROM 'THE TIMES'.*

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*LONDON, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1880*

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KING George of Greece has come to an end of his European tour. He has been visiting most of the Northern and Western Courts. He was a few days ago at Milan with King Humbert and Queen Marguerite, and after a short stay at Rome, where he saw the Pope, he sailed from Brindisi, and is expected at Athens to-day. Why His Majesty should have left his kingdom at the present juncture, or what, having quitted it, are his new prospects in returning to it, is to many persons matter for wonder. Athens, no doubt, is somewhat of an unpleasant residence in the hot season. From May to October the dust and glare of its streets invest the place with some of the horrors of an African desert. But for the Court there is no lack of cool summer retreats and pleasant shades amid the groves on the breezy summit of Mount Parnès, or at the marine bower of the old English Governor's garden a few miles out of Corfu. This was not the year in which a Ruler of Greece could afford to lay aside the cares of State and play the tourist, unless he had unbounded confidence that his subjects could govern themselves as well without as with him or unless he hoped that he could do more good to them at foreign capitals than by his presence at home. The destinies of the Hellenic nation, he perhaps reasoned, are in the hands of the European Powers; and with one of his sisters looking forward to share, in the natural course of things the throne of England, and another wedded to the heir of all the Russias, he might flatter himself that he would be at no loss for opportunities of pleading his people's cause and his own though he might have



learnt from his father's experience how little dynastic connexions weigh in our days on the political scales.

Greece came out of the Berlin Congress on worse conditions than Montenegro, yet the European Concert underwent a considerable strain in bringing the Porte to the observance of the Berlin Treaty even so far as the surrender of Dulcigno is concerned. Independently of the right and wrong of the respective claims on Turkey of Greece and Montenegro, there is between the two States this material difference—that Montenegro, after having been long in chronic feud and even at open war with Turkey, won by hard fighting the very town and part of the territory now to be handed over to her, and that her claims were expressly confirmed by treaty. Our Paris Correspondent, in his interesting letter yesterday upon the Greek Question, says it is the misfortune of Greece that she was not ready to take part in the late war, and cannot, therefore, show any like claim founded upon actual conquest. Greece will probably reply that, whether ready or not, she was willing at that time to engage in the fray on the chance of sharing the spoils, and that she ought not to suffer now for having then been guided by the remonstrances and warnings of Europe. The answer is that a State which cannot defend itself must submit to listen to prudent counsel, and must not be aggressive. The coast of Greece can only be protected from the attacks of Turkish ironclads and the descent of Turkish troops by European intervention; and it is a cheap kind of valour which leads a nation to go to war, always looking behind it for deliverance to those who, as it reckons, will be forced to help it in case of extremity. For this reason Greece was very properly warned not to go to war *in formâ pauperis*, and the warning is again applicable when, as we now read in the reports from Athens, she is raising new loans and is actively recruiting in all parts of the country. It is one thing to have on her side the sympathies of Europe; it is for Europe to decide whether new territory shall be added to Greece at an expenditure of blood and money which may be incurred mainly by other Powers. It is clear from the tone and feeling which are reflected in our Paris correspondence that so far as France is concerned, if Greece proceeds to disturb the peace

of Europe, she will do so at her peril; and France, as we know, was the most prominent supporter of the claims of Greece at Berlin. It is unfortunate that the King's return should occur at this moment, when it must seem to convey, if not a positive announcement, at least an ominous intimation that he comes back empty-handed.

If all the hopes and aspirations of the Hellenic people are, at least for the present, so far from fulfilment, what reception can King George expect to meet at their hands? Assuredly King George is not in any manner to blame for the turn events have taken, and he would gladly have done all in his power to save his people from a disappointment that will be hard for them to bear. But though nations in their vexation are seldom apt to reason, and the Greeks have never given proofs of either fairness or forbearance in their dealings with their rulers, it will be well for their future fortunes as a nation if they now show this forbearance and practise the virtue of patience. Meanwhile, the new levies and the army that was to repair all the country's losses are only too likely to accomplish its ruin. An army consisting of 14,000 men in normal times, raised from year to year to a force of 40,000 to which now a reserve of 20,000 is being superadded—an army doomed to eat off its head like a steed in its stall—must needs utterly crush a State with a population of 1,500,000 a revenue in 1879 of L. 1,600,000, a deficit of L. 500,000, and a debt of L. 18,000,000 the interest of which—such part of it as is ever paid—absorbs more than one fourth of the expenditure; and a State, also, with a commerce of L. 7,500,000, of which the imports exceed the exports by L. 1,500,000.

What is the King's Government to do if, as is only too probable, the European Concert is unable or unwilling to resort to coercion, and leaves Turkey to her own devices? Will Greece quietly submit to the disenchantment of her dearest illusions? Such is the question with which King George's brain will most likely be busy as he comes in sight of those islands which England gave up to him to be the brightest jewels in his diadem. The prospect before him is by some person declared to be an alternative between war and revolution, but surely this picture of the situation at Athens does injustice to the Greek character. That the people



should be dissatisfied with their existing boundaries is natural. At the beginning the Greeks had a small, wasted mountainous territory allotted to them—the mere bones, as it has been justly said, of the body of which the flesh and blood lay in Thessaly, in Macedonia, anywhere beyond its boundaries. The State was inadequate to the nation's aspirations, and it had not sufficient attraction to bring the nation to rally around it. Next to the Jews the Greeks are the most widely scattered and homeless people, and King George's State no more represents the genius, the energy, and wealth of the Hellenic race than Palestine, if it were made independent, would be the centre of Israelitish thought or enterprise. There are in Asia Minor, in Roumelia, in Constantinople, and throughout Turkey, as well as in Italy, Germany, and even in this country, tens of thousands of Greeks whose love for Greece is purely Platonic, who not only never dream of bringing their household gods, their riches, industry, and intelligence to add to the population, to the resources, and thus to the importance of the little kingdom, but who contribute also very little, if anything, to lighten its burdens, to help it to meet its engagements, to keep up a credit which is every day sinking lower. The Greeks claim Thessaly, Epirus, Crete, Cyprus, and who knows what else? But it cannot be said that they have as yet fully vindicated Greece for the Greeks, inasmuch as they have not made the best or the most of that land which for fifty years has been indisputably their own. That Pan-Hellenism has a part, and a principal part, to play in the future development of Eastern politics no man can doubt, for with all its shortcomings the kingdom of Greece exhibits undeniable symptoms of material and intellectual progress and in point of education and culture it not only is vastly in advance of what it was at its rise, and of what either any province or even the capital of the Turkish Empire is at the present day, but it also outstrips the progress visible in Roumania, in Servia, and in the other communities raised to independent existence out of the fragments of the Sultan's dominions.

How much more the Greeks are likely to profit by the further disintegration of the Ottoman estate no one can venture to foretell. There is no doubt that in all those Asiatic

regions where mixed races live side by side, in moral ascendancy, in expansive power, in every branch of business, and even in mere numbers, the Greek is invariably gaining ground over the Mussulman and gradually driving him from the spot. Were quiet times to prevail and the causes already at work left peacefully to achieve their effects, it is by no means impossible that the vanquished race might eventually reconquer the position it lost four centuries since. Meanwhile Europe has by no means said its last word on this question, and the Greeks will not advance their cause, but, on the contrary, will do much to forfeit the sympathies of Europe, by engaging in premature enterprises which, as they perfectly well know, they are not strong enough to carry through.

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# MINERVA

A MONTHLY REVIEW

Edited by PERICLES TZIKOS

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Annual Subscrip. Post-free 24 Shil. or 30 Fr. (Italy 30 L. It).

Separate numbers 2 shil. or fr. 2.50 (Italy 2.50 L. it).

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OFFICE OF MINERVA - 56 Piazza Montecitorio, Rome.

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LONDON: WILLIAMS & NORGATE.

PARIS: Librairie BOYVEAU, 22 Rue de la Banque.

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